

Temple Israel, later Union Memorial African
Methodist Episcopal Church
Northeast Corner of Leffingwell and Pine Streets
St. Louis
St. Louis City County
Missouri

HABS No. MO-1170

HABS
MO
96-SALU
62-

PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Eastern Office, Division of Design and Construction
143 South Third Street
Philadelphia 6, Pennsylvania

TEMPLE ISRAEL
LATER UNION MEMORIAL AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCHHABS
MO
96-SALU
62-

Address: Northeast Corner of Leffingwell and Pine Streets,
St. Louis, St. Louis City County, Missouri

Present Owner: Land Clearance Authority of St. Louis, 2031 Olive
Street, St. Louis, Missouri.

Brief Statement of Significance: This is a large, Romanesque Revival building erected
in 1888.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History

1. Original and subsequent owners: Temple Israel Congregation
Moses Fraley and August Frank, 1888-1907.
Union Memorial African Methodist Episcopal Church 1907-1959.
2. Date of erection: 1888.
3. Architect: Grable and Weber, Architects, of St. Louis
4. Notes on alterations and additions: Tower was removed
in 1897 because it was unsafe, by Will Levy, Architect,
Railway Exchange Building, St. Louis.

Prepared by John A. Bryan, Architect
for the Landmarks Inc. Association
of St. Louis - September 1960

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement

1. Architectural character: This is a large Romanesque
Revival building with interior unchanged as to stained
glass, pew arrangement, lighting fixtures and organ case.
The chandeliers may be oldest electric fixtures in the
state.
2. Condition of fabric: Good.

No
96-3424

B. Technical Description of Exterior

1. Overall dimensions: Large sanctuary with balcony and with offices attached, layout rectangular.
2. Foundations: Masonry.
3. Wall construction: Rock face gray limestone, ashlar with brown sandstone trim.
4. Porches: Stone entrance porch with characteristic round, short columns.
5. Chimneys: One modern stack in rear.
6. Openings:
 - a. Doorways and doors: Wood-grained, walnut and mahogany. Ornate brass hinges and knobs.
 - b. Windows: Original leaded stained glass, in geometric patterns only.
7. Roof: Wood roof vaulted with slate covering.

C. Technical Description of Interior

1. Floor plans: Main sanctuary with gallery, rear section is three stories of offices and classrooms.
2. Stairways: Open stairway, wood, to gallery and a semi-closed stair in rear to offices.
3. Flooring: Vestibule- square tile, marble; main auditorium- wood, carpeted.
4. Wall and ceiling finish: Wood wainscot. Exposed wood trussed ceiling. Plaster walls painted recently.
5. Doors: Wood doors with cut plate glass.
6. Trim: Ornamental plaster carving in chancel; gallery railing stained mahogany.
7. Hardware: Undistinguished.
8. Lighting: Brass electric chandeliers original with church; may be earliest existent electric fixtures in the state.
9. Heating: Three hot air coal furnaces.

D. Site: Main facade faces south to Pine Street. Corner, city lot.

Prepared by Robert G. Stewart, Architect
for the Landmarks Inc. Association
of St. Louis
May 1960